

NEWCASTLE-EMLYN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

SANITARY REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1937.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Report upon the health and sanitation of your Area for the year 1937.

Area, 208 Acres.

Population, 791.

Number of Inhabited Houses, 261.

Rateable Value, £2,945.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate is £11 6s. 3d.

There is a Shirt Factory employing 22 persons, a Milk Factory employing 24 persons, and an Egg Grading Station. A Mart and Market is held fortnightly. The town otherwise is a shopping centre for an agricultural area.

Unemployment is not severe.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR ARE AS FOLLOWS :

				Total.	M.	F.	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population...11.4, as compared with 14.9 for England and Wales.
Live Births	{ Legitimate...			8	6	2	
	{ Illegitimate..			0	0	0	

Stillbirths Nil.

Deaths 12. Death Rate per 1000 estimated population...15.2 as compared [with 12.4 for England & Wales.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes—Nil. as compared with 3.23 per 1000 for [England & Wales.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age—Nil, as compared with 58 per 1000 [for England & Wales.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)—One.

Deaths from Measles (all ages)—Nil.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)—Nil.

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)—Nil.

General Comment on Deaths :

75 per cent. of the Total Deaths are due to diseases of the Heart, Lungs and Blood Vessels; of 12 Deaths 4 were over 75 years of age, and 10 over 50 years of age. (4 died of Heart Disease, 2 Males & 2 Females). Two of the Deaths were due to Violence. No Death occurred from T.B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

1. The Public Health Officers consist of one Medical Officer of Health, and a Sanitary Inspector and his Assistant; they are not wholly employed in Public Health Work.
2. (a) Pathological Investigations are done at Carmarthen Hospital, 22 miles away.
(b) There is no Public Ambulance Service.

- (c) Nursing in the home is carried out by a thoroughly competent District Nurse.
- (d) A Tuberculosis Clinic is held fortnightly in the area under the King Edward VII National Memorial Association. A Child Welfare Clinic under the auspices of the Carmarthenshire County Council will be held fortnightly starting in the New Year.
- (e) General and Maternity Hospital Cases can be and are treated at Cardigan Memorial Hospital 10 miles away, or at Carmarthen 22 miles away; both are Voluntary Hospitals. There is no Hospital or Nursing Home in the Urban Area.

SANITARY CONDITIONS.

1. (i) WATER.—The new water supply at Penbuarth has now been fenced off, and a satisfactory pathological report has been obtained. The Chemical report states that the water is plumbo solvent to a similar extent as the already existing supplies, which though not at all dangerous or injurious, may have to be treated in the near future to prevent further corrosion of the pipe lines. The new supply is copious and it is expected that it will be connected up with the Cwm Pipes in the New Year.

(ii) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.—Very minor improvements and alterations have been made. The efficiency of the present system is very satisfactorily reflected in the Medical Officer of Health's Reports for the last quarter of a century.

2. RIVERS AND STREAMS.—No pollution has been reported or suspected.

3. (i) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION,—About ten additional houses each year are improved by the addition of a water carriage system of sewerage disposal, and the majority of the houses are now so supplied.

(ii) PUBLIC CLEANSING.—No change has been made. Successful efforts have been made to reduce the number of rats at the dumping ground by means of a virus which carries an infection fatal to rats but not to human beings or to domestic animals.

(iii) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.—82.

(iv) SHOPS.—No action has been taken under the provisions of the Shops Act, 1934.

(v) SMOKE ABATEMENT.—There is no smoke nuisance.

(vi) SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.—It is to be regretted that there is no public or private Swimming Pool in the area.

(vii) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.—There is no evidence that any infest the area, and so no action has been necessary to eradicate them.

4. SCHOOLS.—There is one School in the Area.

HOUSING.

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year:—

i (a) Total Number of Dwelling Houses inspected for housing defects 40.

(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose 60.

ii (a) Number of Dwelling Houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925 Nil.

(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose Nil.

iii Number of Houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation—Nil.

iv Number of Dwelling Houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation Nil

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of formal Notices :
Number so remedied—Nil.
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :
 - (a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :
 - i Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs—Nil
 - ii Number of Dwelling which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—
 - (a) By Owners—Nil.
 - (b) By Local Authority in default of owners—Nil,
 - (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :
 - i Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied—1.
 - ii Number of Dwelling Houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—
 - (a) By Owners—1.
 - (b) By Local Authority in default of owners—Nil.
 - (c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :
 - i Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made—Nil.
 - ii Number of Dwelling Houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders—Nil.
 - (d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :
 - i Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made—Nil.
 - ii Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit—Nil.
4. Housing Act, 1936.—Part IV.—Overcrowding :—
 - (a).—(i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year—Nil
 - (b).—Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year— Nil.
 - (c).—(i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year—Nil
 - (ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases—Nil.
 - (d).—Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded—Nil.
 - (e).—There are three cases which are on the border line of overcrowding, and action may become necessary in the near future.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

- (a) MILK SUPPLY.—No action has been necessary or taken under the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, or the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936. All Farms and Dairies have been inspected and found to conform to the Regulations.
- (b) MEAT & OTHER FOODS.—Slaughterhouses and meat have been inspected periodically, and no action has been found necessary.
- (c) ADULTERATION.—No action has been found necessary.
- (d) CHEMICAL & BACTERIOLOGIC EXAMINATION OF FOOD is carried out by the County Council.
- (e) NUTRITION.—No steps have been taken by the Council to increase the knowledge of the public on this matter.
- (f) SHELLFISH.—There are no Shellfish Beds in the area.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Three cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during the year. One case of Diphtheria and One case of Puerperal Pyrexia was notified. All were mild cases, and all recovered.

CANCER.—Only one case died of cancer, the age incidence being 72, Facilities for treatment are available at Swansea 45 miles away, or at Cardiff 90 miles away.

BLINDNESS.—No action has been necessary for the prevention of blindness.

TUBERCULOSIS.—No action has been necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925, or Section 132 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

New Cases and Mortality during 1937 :—

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-								
1-				1				
5-								
10-								
15-								
20-								
25-								
35-								
45-								
55-		1						
65 and upwards ...								
Totals ...	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0

There has been no case of Non Notified Tuberculosis death. The only case removed from the Tuberculosis Register died of another disease, not from Tuberculosis. 15 cases are still left on the Tuberculosis Register out of a population of 791, an incidence rate of 18.9 per 1000 population.

I beg to remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN PENRY.

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Medical Officer of Health.